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REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1-17 have been withdrawn. Claim 18 has been amended, and Claims 23 and 24 have been added, leaving Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 11, and 13 – 24 for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. The Specification has been amended to correct certain typographical errors.

Claim 18 has been amended to correct grammar “a medium” not, “a media”. This amendment does not change the scope of the claims, it merely corrects grammar.

Claims 23 and 24 have been added to further claim the present invention. Support for these claims can at least be found in Paragraph [0033] as originally filed.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments or new claims. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over Sandstrom, U.S. Patent No. 5,972,461, in view of Murakami et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,426,632. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

For an obviousness rejection to be proper, the Examiner must meet the burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness, i.e., that all elements of the invention are disclosed in the prior art; that the prior art relied upon, contains some suggestion or incentive that would have motivated the skilled artisan to modify a reference or combined references. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In Re Wilson*, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970); *Amgen v. Chugai Pharmaceuticals Co.*, 927 U.S.P.Q.2d, 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

Sandstrom is relied upon to teach “injection molding a substrate comprising a plastic surface... and a preformed core...; and disposing a reflective layer on at least one surface of the substrate... (see also col. 7, lines 4-54)” (Office Action, pages 2 – 3).

The present claims are directed to a method for making a data storage medium. The method comprises: injection molding a substrate comprising a plastic surface and a preformed core and disposing a reflective layer on at least one surface of the substrate. (Claim 18).

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The section of Sandstrom cited in the Office Action fails to teach "injection molding a substrate comprising a plastic surface and a preformed core and disposing a reflective layer on at least one surface of the substrate". The section relied upon in Sandstrom merely appears to teach injection molding polycarbonate. It does not mention a preformed core. In the Office Action, it is alleged that Sandstrom teaches cores of metal or glass. (Office Action, page 3) However, the section of Sandstrom does not appear to teach injection molding a substrate comprising polycarbonate *and* a metal or glass core. This reference, therefore, at least fails to teach injection molding a substrate comprising a plastic surface *and* a preformed core.

Murakami et al. are directed to an information recording medium and a method for recording information on the medium. Murakami et al. are relied upon to teach that pre-pits have been formed on a plastic substrate by injection molding, and a reflective layer is formed on the pits-formed substrate. (Office Action, page 3) Murakami et al. are not relied upon to teach injection molding a substrate comprising a plastic surface and a preformed core.

Therefore, even if Sandstrom is combined with the teaching of Murakami et al. to put a reflective layer over a pits-formed substrate, the combination will still fail to teach the element of injection molding a substrate comprising a plastic surface and a preformed core. No *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

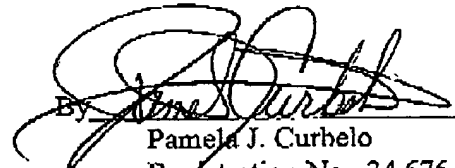
It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

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If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1131.

Respectfully submitted,

CANTOR COLBURN LLP

By 
Pamela J. Curhelo
Registration No. 34,676

Date: October 17, 2005
CANTOR COLBURN LLP
55 Griffin Road South
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone (860) 286-2929
Facsimile (860) 286-0115
Customer No.: 23413